

Intel Science Talent Search Inspiring Tomorrow's Innovators

The Intel Science Talent Search, a program of Society for Science & the Public (SSP), is an annual competition that identifies the nation's most promising scientists of the future and celebrates the best and brightest young minds as they compete for one of the most esteemed honors bestowed on high school seniors in the United States. As America's oldest and most prestigious pre-college science competition, the Intel Science Talent Search encourages students to tackle challenging scientific questions and develop the skills to solve the problems of tomorrow.

Intel Science Talent Search 2010

This year, 1,736 high school seniors entered the Intel Science Talent Search with original research projects from a range of mathematical, engineering, environmental and scientific disciplines. These projects were judged on their originality and creative thinking as well as on a broader measure of the students' achievement and leadership, both inside and outside the classroom.

On January 13, this field of entrants was narrowed to 300 semifinalists hailing from 175 high schools in 37 states and the District of Columbia. A total of \$600,000 was awarded to the 300 semifinalists and their schools to support their science and math resources.

From the pool of 300 semifinalists, 40 finalists from 18 states were selected on January 27 to gather in Washington, D.C. from March 11-16 and compete for more than \$630,000 in awards. The finalists' innovative ideas present potential solutions to issues that have stumped scientists for years. In 2010, project topics include inequity in high school science research programs; examining behavioral factors in breast cancer cures; an autonomous spacecraft navigation system; increasing the performance of organic solar cells and organic light-emitting diodes; semantic image retrieval; comparing language perception, production, and memory in older and younger adults; and chemotherapy and antibiotic drug resistance.

New York again has the highest number of young innovators in this competition (11 this year). Following New York is California with eight finalists; Texas with three; Illinois, New Jersey and Oregon with two each; and Alabama, Connecticut, Indiana, Massachusetts, Maryland, Michigan, North Carolina, North Dakota, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Virginia and Wisconsin with one finalist each.

While in Washington, D.C., the finalists will undergo a rigorous judging process, interact with leading scientists, display their research at the renowned National Academy of Sciences, and meet with national leaders. Winners will be announced at a black-tie gala award ceremony at the National Building Museum on March 16.

The top winner receives a \$100,000 award. The second-place finalist receives \$75,000, and the third-prize winner gets a \$50,000 award. Fourth place receives \$40,000 and \$30,000 is awarded to fifth place. The sixth and seventh-place finalists each receive a \$25,000 award; eighth- through tenth-prize winners each receive \$20,000. In addition to the top 10 awards, each of the 30 remaining finalists receive more than \$7.500 in awards.

To learn more about the Intel Science Talent Search, please visit www.intel.com/education/sts/. To view ongoing updates about the 2010 Intel Science Talent Search, join the Facebook group at www.facebook.com/pages/Inspired-by-Education/32855637280 and follow Twitter updates at www.twitter.com/intelinspire.

A Storied History

Over the past 68 years, Science Talent Search participants have gone on to win some of the world's most esteemed academic honors. Notable past participants include seven Nobel Laureates, two Fields Medalists, three recipients of the National Medal of Science and ten MacArthur Foundation Fellows.

Society for Science & the Public (SSP), a nonprofit organization dedicated to public engagement in scientific research and education, owns and has administered the Science Talent Search since its inception in 1942. Since beginning its partnership with SSP 12 years ago, Intel has increased the total annual awards from \$207,000 to \$1.25 million.

In October 2008, the Intel Foundation committed \$120 million over the next 10 years to fund the company's historical commitment to the Intel Science Talent Search and Intel International Science and Engineering Fair. The support also added a robust youth outreach program plus an online science community and science fair alumni and mentoring network.

In January 2009, Intel and SSP launched a nationwide search to find past alumni of the Science Talent Search. Linking past Science Talent Search alumni will provide new resources and an inspiring community of peers for future young scientists. Details can be found at www.societyforscience.org/membership/signup.cfm.

Intel's Commitment to Math and Science Education

Intel believes that young people are the key to solving global challenges, and a solid math and science foundation combined with skills such as critical thinking, collaboration, and digital literacy are crucial for their success. Over the past decade alone, Intel has invested more than \$1 billion, and its employees have donated more than 2.5 million hours toward improving education in 50 countries.

To learn more about the Intel Education Initiative, visit www.intel.com/education and the CSR@Intel blog at blogs.intel.com/csr. To join Intel's community of people sharing their stories with the hope of becoming a catalyst for action and a voice for change in global education, visit www.inspiredbyeducation.com.

About the Society for Science & the Public

Society for Science & the Public (SSP) is one of the nation's oldest non-profit organizations dedicated to public engagement in science and science education. Established in 1921, SSP is a leading advocate for the understanding and appreciation of science and the vital role it plays in human advancement. Through its acclaimed education competitions and its award-winning magazine, *Science News*, Society for Science & the Public is committed to inform, educate, and inspire.

To learn more about SSP, please visit www.societyforscience.org.